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2 January 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

ATTENTION : Mr. Enno H. Knoche

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SUBJECT : Preliminary Comment on [REDACTED]

1. These two missions, which were designed to provide photographic coverage of central South China, were partially successful. Both flights were hampered by adverse weather conditions and camera malfunction.

2. Only one major military development was noted. A 4,000 foot temporary airfield near Kueiyang is under construction and apparently will be extended to 7,000 feet and covered with asphalt. When completed this field will be capable of sustained jet fighter operations. Taken in conjunction with evidence in recent photography of several large military garrison areas near the Burmese, Laotian and North Vietnamese borders, this construction is probably related to Peiping's efforts to improve its military capabilities in the Kunming Military Region.

3. Most major airfields were not observed because of adverse weather conditions. Jet fighter strength noted at Canton and Huiyang was consistent with air order-of-battle estimate. Several military installations and other high-priority target areas were covered by cloud-free photography, but no unusual activity or facilities were observed.

4. A few small industrial complexes were photographed, but a search of the Chengtu-Chungking area was restricted by 85 percent cloud cover. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A possible research-type installation containing one administration building and nine laboratory-type buildings was located five miles southwest of Kweilin.

NSA review(s) completed.

For the DD/I

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